

Message Text

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LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, GR

SUBJECT: GREECE AND NATO

REF: USNATO 5089

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1. MISSION, OF COURSE, IS CORRECT IN ITS ANALYSIS OF NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY. ARTICLE 5 IS A COMMITMENT TO COLLECTIVE DEFENSE AGAINST ATTACK, BUT IT IS NOT AUTOMATIC AND ITS ACTIVATION IS SUBJECT TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL PROCESSES OF EACH MEMBER STATE. THIS IS CLEAR FROM THE RECORD OF THE SENATE HEARINGS ON THE TREATY AND IS REFLECTED IN THE VANDENBERG RESOLUTION, AS POINTED OUT REFTEL. FURTHER, THE NEED EFFECTIVELY TO IMPLEMENT ARTICLE 5 AS WELL AS ARTICLE 3 OF THE TREATY PROVIDES THE BASIC RATIONALE FOR NATO'S INTEGRATED MILITARY STRUCTURE. UNDER ARTICLE 9, THE COUNCIL IS ASKED TO IMPLEMENT THOSE TWO PROVISIONS OF THE TREATY.

2. SHOULD US DECIDE TO ADDRESS THIS ISSUE WITH GREECE, IT WOULD PROBABLY BEST BE DONE IN THE CONTEXT OF BROADER GREEK-US DISCUSSIONS IN THE EVENT GOG ASKS THAT STATUS OF US MILITARY FACILITIES IN GREECE BE REVIEWED. AT LEAST FOR THE TIME BEING WE PREFER NOT TO PURSUE THIS MATTER IN THE NATO CONTEXT.

KISSINGER

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